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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit 2863

In re application of \_\_\_\_\_ : September 8, 2003  
Eric P. Solecky et al. : Examiner: Tung S. Lau  
Serial No. : 09/996,399 :  
Filed: November 29, 2001 : IBM Corporation  
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR : Dept. 18G/Bldg, 300-482  
CHARACTERIZING FEATURES AT : 2070 Route 52  
SMALL DIMENSIONS : Hopewell Junction, NY  
12533-6531

#7/Amult A  
Arm  
9/23/03

**Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following amendment is submitted in response to the official action dated May 8, 2003.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 11 of this paper.

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*Colleen J. Dew*

## DOCUMENTS FAXED, INCLUDING COVER:

|              |                         |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| Re Applic of | Eric P. Soleckey et al. |
| Docket No.   | FIS920010256US1         |
| Serial No.   | 09/996,399              |
| Filing Date  | 11/29/2001              |
| Attorney     | Steven Capella          |

Attached: Amendment w/One Month Extension of Time


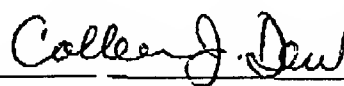
(16 pages)

## PLEASE DELIVER TO:

EXAMINER: Tung S. Lau  
UNIT UNIT: 2863  
PHONE NO: 703-872-9317  
FAX NO: 703-872-9318

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INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS  
MACHINES CORPORATIONIntellectual Property Law  
East Fishkill Facility  
2070 Route 52  
Hopewell Junction  
New York 12533-6531Fax: 845-892-6363  
Phone: 845-894-3669

|   |                                     |                                |  |         |                   |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---------|-------------------|
| <b>AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)</b>  |                                     |                                | Docket No.<br><b>FIS920010256US1</b>   |         |                   |
| Applicant(s): <b>Eric P. Solecky</b>  |                                     |                                |  |         |                   |
| Serial No.<br><b>09/996,399</b>   | Filing Date<br><b>11/29/2001</b>    | Examiner<br><b>Tung S. Lau</b> | Group Art Unit<br><b>2863</b>          |         |                   |
| Invention: <b>APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CHARACTERIZING FEATURES AT SMALL DIMENSIONS</b>  |                                     |                                |  |         |                   |
| <u>TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:</u>   |                                     |                                | <b>RECEIVED<br/>CENTRAL FAX CENTER</b> |         |                   |
| <b>SEP 09 2003</b>  |                                     |                                |  |         |                   |
| Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.<br>The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.   |                                     |                                |  |         |                   |
| <b>CLAIMS AS AMENDED</b>  |                                     |                                |  |         |                   |
|   | CLAIMS REMAINING<br>AFTER AMENDMENT | HIGHEST #<br>PREV. PAID FOR    | NUMBER EXTRA<br>CLAIMS PRESENT         | RATE    | ADDITIONAL<br>FEE |
| TOTAL CLAIMS  | 30 -                                | 32 =                           | 0 x                                    | \$18.00 | \$0.00            |
| INDEP. CLAIMS   | 6 -                                 | 7 =                            | 0 x                                    | \$84.00 | \$0.00            |
| Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>  |                                     |                                |  |         | \$0.00            |
| <b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT:</b>   |                                     |                                |  |         | <b>\$0.00</b>     |
| <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for amendment.<br/><input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____<br/><input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.<br/><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <b>09-0458, FI-319</b><br/><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.<br/><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.</div><div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; text-align: right;">OFFICIAL</div></div> <div style="margin-top: 20px;"><div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"><div style="width: 40%;"><br/>Signature</div><div style="width: 50%; text-align: right;">Dated: <b>Sept. 8, 2003</b></div></div><div style="margin-top: 10px;"><b>Steven Capella, registration No. 33,086</b><br/><b>International Business Machines Corporation</b><br/><b>2070 Route 52</b><br/><b>Hopewell Junction, NY 12533</b><br/><b>845-894-3669</b></div></div> |                                     |                                |  |         |                   |
| <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"><div>cc:</div><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40%; text-align: center;"><div style="font-size: 0.8em;">I certify that this document and fee is being faxed on 09/08/2003</div><div style="font-size: 0.8em;">Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.</div><div style="margin-top: 10px;"><br/>Signature of Person Faxing Correspondence</div><div style="margin-top: 5px;"><b>Colleen J. Dew</b><br/>Typed or Printed Name of Person Faxing Correspondence</div></div></div>   |                                     |                                |  |         |                   |